

individual wages for the additional jobs will vary by function, the overall average for the Nypro jobs will be \$30,951, not including benefits. The Buncombe County average is \$32,968

In Clayton, Novo Nordisk plans an expansion of its existing facility to accommodate increased production of a new insulin delivery device. In Asheville, Nypro plans to build an additional 75,000 square feet to its existing facility to supply plastic injection molding, components and assembly for Novo Nordisk's new device.

"This expansion project continues our productive relationship with the state of North Carolina and exemplifies our commitment to serving the needs of people with diabetes," said Doug Wallis, corporate vice president and general manager, Novo Nordisk Pharmaceutical Industries, Inc. "We thank Governor Perdue, Secretary Crisco, and all the state and local government officials who have played a role in making this project a reality for their collaboration and support."

According to Ray Grupinski, Group President, Healthcare for Nypro, "This combined growth of Nypro with our customer Novo Nordisk is part of Nypro's partnership with our customer and our plan to expand healthcare plastics manufacturing at key sites around the world. Nypro has been part of North Carolina since 1987 and we are proud to be able to further North Carolina's commitment to manufacturing employment."

"Despite the tough economic times and critics who wanted to slash to the bone, North Carolina did not back away from investing in education, job training and transportation," said Sen. Martin Nesbitt of Asheville. "That courage and foresight is paying off with decisions like today's, with more and more companies deciding to locate or expand in North Carolina."

"This is terrific news for our neighbors in Buncombe County," said Rep. Jane Whilden, of Asheville, "but it's also a win for the entire state, showing that we have done the right things to create one of the best business climates in the country."

To help facilitate these expansions, Novo Nordisk has been awarded a \$400,000 grant from the state's One North Carolina Fund, and Nypro has been awarded a \$200,000 grant. This fund provides cash grants to attract business projects deemed by the governor to be vital to a healthy and growing state economy. No money is paid up front and companies must meet job creation and investment targets to receive payments. One North Carolina Fund grants also require a local match, and this grant is contingent upon approval of local incentives.

Also, the state Economic Investment Committee today voted to award a Job Development Investment Grant to Novo Nordisk. JDIGs are awarded only to new and expanding businesses and industrial projects who benefits exceed the costs to the state and which would not be undertaken in North Carolina without the grant.

Under the terms of the JDIG, the company is eligible to receive a grant equal to 65 percent of the state personal income withholding taxes derived from the creation of new jobs for each of the 10 years in which the company meets annual performance targets. If Novo Nordisk meets the